

R E P O R T

On the State of the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions

of the

WESTBURY URBAN DISTRICT

For the Year

1971

WESTBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

S. E. CUPPLES

Medical Officer of Health
of the Westbury Urban
District Council.

Portway House,
WARMINSTER,
Wiltshire.

To the Chairman and Members of Westbury Urban District Council.

Sir,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report relating to the state of public health and sanitary conditions in the urban district of Westbury during the year 1971. This includes the report of your Chief Public Health Inspector.

On 20th August, 1971, Dr. J. F. Reynolds, M.C., retired as your Medical Officer of Health after 24 years in the appointment. I was unable to assume the appointment until 27th September, in the interim matters of an urgent nature were dealt with by one of your Standing Deputies.

Dr. Reynolds had been given office accommodation and secretarial assistance at Craven House, Warminster, for the mixed appointments he held. It was decided I would be given these facilities by Warminster Urban Council at Portway House and consequently I arrived to find that files, registers, etc., had been transferred to Portway House; one of my first tasks was therefore to organise the office in its new location.

In view of my short tenure this report is largely of a statistical nature. I have, however, included some figures from the report of 1951. Statistics for the year 1970 are given in brackets.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

S. E. CUPPLES.

WESTBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

	<u>To May 1971</u>	<u>From May 1971</u>
<u>Chairman of the Council</u>	H. W. Earle	M. W. Jones
<u>Vice-Chairman</u>	M. W. Jones	R. H. Candy
<u>Chairman of Public Health Committee</u>	Mrs. P.F. Cundick J.P.	H. W. Earle
<u>Members of Public Health Committee</u>	Chairman of the Council) Vice Chairman of the Council)	ex officio Mrs. J. R. Holloway Mrs. P.F. Cundick J.P. Mrs. E. M. Ingram A. E. Sach R. G. Edwards P. C. Harwood
	Mrs. J. R. Holloway Mrs. E. M. Ingram R. G. Rickard A. E. Sach Dr. N.S. Salisbury W.F. Vivash J.P.	
<u>Staff of the Public Health Department</u>		
<u>Medical Officer of Health</u>		
J. Reynolds MC., LRCP., LRCS., LRFP & S., DPH. until 20th August.		Craven House, Warminster. Tel: 3428
S. E. Cupples MB., BCh., BAO., DPH., MFCM. from 27th September.		Portway House, Warminster. Tel: 2393
<u>Chief Public Health Inspector</u>)	
C. R. Driver, MRSH.)	
	)	Council Offices, Westbury.
<u>Additional Public Health Inspector</u>	)	Tel: Westbury 2231
J. E. Sisson, MAPHI.)	
<u>Clerks (Warminster Office)</u>)	
Miss K. V. Jones	)	Craven House, Warminster. Tel: 3428
Mrs. E. Bowyer)	
Miss S. Thomas)	
Mrs. L. Hodder		Portway House, Warminster. Tel: 2393

The Medical Officer of Health also holds the appointments of Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Warminster and the Rural District of Warminster and Westbury. He is a Medical Officer and School Medical Officer for the Wiltshire County Council.

The Chief Public Health Inspector and the Additional Public Health Inspectors are the Surveyor and Assistant Surveyor to the Council.

			<u>1951</u>
Area of District in Acres	3,686	(3,686)	3,686
Population (Register Generals estimate at mid year)	6,460	(6,090)	5,333
Number of Domestic Hereditaments	2,320	(2,250)	1,627
Number of Council Houses	635	(635)	
Number on Council's General Waiting List approx.	75		
Number on Waiting List for accommodation for the elderly approx.	50		
Rateable value	£367,022	(353,120)	-
Product of Rate	1d £	(1,405)	118
	1p £ 3,560	-	-

VITAL STATISTICS

The population figures and statistics include members of the armed Forces stationed in the area. It is customary to use area comparability factors with birth and death rates to make allowance for the way the age and sex distribution of the local population differs from that of England and Wales and also to take account of any residential institution in the area, the adjusted figures are therefore comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales or the adjusted rates for other areas. Revised comparability factors are not yet available from the 1971 census and in order to draw some comparison the 1970 comparability factors have again been used.

Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1951</u>
Legitimate	47	51	98 (100)	90
Illegitimate	1	4	5 (7)	2
TOTAL	48	55	103 (107)	92
Rate per 1,000 local population	15.9	(17.6)	17.25	
Area comparability factor	1.14			
Local adjusted Rate	18.1	(20.1)	-	
Rate England and Wales	16	(16.0)	15.5	
Illegitimate Rate as % of				
local rate	5	(7.0)	2.2	
England and Wales	8	(8.0)	-	

The following amendment should be made to the report for 1971 of the Medical Officer of Health to Westbury Urban District Council:-

Page 3

Number of Domestic Hereditaments delete 2,320 and (2,250) and
substitute 2,250 and (2,161).

Rateable value delete £367,022 and (353,120) and
substitute £353,120 and (349,590).

Product of Rate 1p delete £ 3,560 and substitute £3,333.



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Stillbirths

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1951</u>
1 (1)	0 (0)	1 (1)	0

Although rates calculated from such small occurrences are not significant for comparison this would give a rate of 10 per thousand live and still births to compare with a rate of 12 for England and Wales.

Deaths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1951</u>
	41	27	68 (84)	59
Rate per 1,000 population			10.5 (13.8)	11.06
Area comparability factor			1.01	
Local adjusted rate			10.06 (13.9)	-
Rate England and Wales			11.6 (11.7)	12.6

Deaths of Infants

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1951</u>
Under 1 year of age	2	0	2 (2)	5
Rate per 1,000 live births				
local			19	54.34
England and Wales			18	29.6
Under 4 weeks of age	1	0	1 (2)	
Under 1 week of age	1	0	1 (2)	

It will be seen from later figures that the death under 4 weeks of age was due to a congenital condition and that between 4 weeks and one year was due to pneumonia.

Cause of Death	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 wks	4 wks - 1 yr	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm stomach	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant neoplasm intestine	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant neoplasm uterus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other malignant neoplasms	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	6	2
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3
Other forms of Heart Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 wks	4 wks - 1 yr	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
Cerebrovascular disease	M F	2 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	- -	2 1
Other diseases of circulatory system	M F	2 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	1 -	1 2
Pneumonia	M F	4 3	- -	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	2 2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M F	1 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- 1	- -
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -
Other genito-urinary diseases	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -
Congenital Anomalies	M F	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M F	2 -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Other Accidents	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -
Suicide and self inflicted injuries	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -
<u>TOTAL</u> all causes	M F	41 27	1 -	1 -	2 -	- -	- -	1 -	1 -	3 1	4 6	13 5	16 14

In analysing the causes of death, or in fact any of the statistics produced in this report, it should be remembered that they relate to personnel normally resident in the District and not as to whether the occurrence happened in or out of the District. The highest cause of death is ischaemic (coronary) heart disease, this and other forms of circulatory disease account for almost half of the deaths, recent evidence indicates that soft water predisposes to circulatory disease but this cannot be the reason for the high proportion of deaths from circulatory disease in Westbury.

On the other hand there was only one death from lung cancer and two from bronchitis and emphysems, conditions which are associated with smoking.

One motor vehicle accident was caused when two vehicles were in collision and the other when a car knocked down a person on the highway.

INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

Infectious diseases notified during the year were:-

	<u>Jan-Mar</u>	<u>Apr-Jun</u>	<u>Jul-Sep</u>	<u>Oct-Dec</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	4	1	2	4	11 (80)
Wh. Cough	-	14	-	-1	15
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	3	3 (1)
Meningitis	-	-	-	1	1 (1)

In addition there were two notifications of tuberculosis, one of them pulmonary.

The following immunisation statistics have been supplied by Dr. C. D. L. Lycett, Medical Officer of Health, Wiltshire County Council.

		Children Born in Years					
		1971	1970	1969	1968	62-67	56-61
Primary Immunisations completed during 1971	Diph.	57	62	-	-	2	1
	Wh.cough	57	62	-	-	-	1
	Tetanus	58	62	-	-	5	6
	Measles	1	56	17	4	9	-
	Polio	57	63	1	-	1	1
Reinforcing Immunisations given	Diph.	-	26	77	7	47	2
	Wh.cough	-	17	51	5	2	-
	Tetanus	-	26	77	7	48	6
	Polio	-	26	76	6	45	3

There were 46 primary vaccinations against smallpox given and three revaccinations. This procedure was discontinued as a routine measure in early childhood during September 1971.

The immunisation state of infants born during the year 1970 has been calculated to be in the region of 93%, a state which can be considered very satisfactory.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Section 47 of the above Act gives the power to have persons in need of care and attention admitted to hospital on the Authority of a magistrate. No action was necessary under the Act during the year.

LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the District.

WATER SUPPLIES

Water supplies are the responsibility of the West Wilts Water Board. Fluoride is not added even though the amount occurring naturally is well below the level of 1 part per million.

The Chief Public Health Inspector has provided the following report:-

HOUSING

During the year 67 private dwellings and 10 Council dwellings were completed.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Five Improvement Grants (Discretionary) and nine Standard Grants were approved during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council continues to share the use of Penleigh tip with Warminster and Westbury Rural District Council.

DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS

One property originally subject to a Closing Order has been made fit for human habitation and the order has consequently been revoked.

One Closing Order has been confirmed.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

In November, 1971, the Council adopted a report by their Consulting Engineers, which provides for the following:-

(a) Sewage Disposal Works

The enlargement of the works to include mechanical sludge treatment plant, additional inlet works, primary, secondary and stormwater tanks and enlarging the pumping plant.

(b) Sewers

A new intercepting sewer is to be constructed in Meadow Lane which will cross Frogmore Road and extend alongside the Bitham Brook to a new pumping station close to the railway embankment. A rising main will convey the sewage from the pumping station to the sewage disposal works.

New sewers are to be constructed in parts of Eden Vale Road and Station Road and also in Haynes Road.

A new sewer is to be provided on the Eastern side of the town to cater for the proposed residential development in that area.

FOOD AND DRUGS

2 lbs. 9½ ozs. pre-packed bacon were surrendered after being found unfit for human consumption.

SWIMMING BATHS

The swimming baths, open for the summer season only, catered for approximately 26,291 swimmers, including visitors.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT

Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Housing Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Complaints	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	894
Drain Tests	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150
Factories and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Pests Act (Inc. Rodent Ops. initial visit)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	105
Petroleum Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Informal Notices Served	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6)
Grocery and Provisions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11)
Cafes and Snack Bars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5)
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3)
Bakeries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2)
Confectionery Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3)
Hotels and Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11)

Regs. 16
and 19
Comply.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Outworkers (Sections 133 and 134)

<u>Class of Work</u>	<u>No. of Outworkers required by Section 110 (1) (c)</u>
(1) Wearing Apparel	48
(14) Umbrellas	2
TOTAL	50

FACTORIES ACT 1961 (continued)

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	No. of Inspections (3)	No. of Written Notices (4)	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authority	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	33	3	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	33	3	-	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	to H.M. (4)	Referred by H.H. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

